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President



Harold McLean
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Speaker



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FLORIDA PUBLIC COUNSEL APPOINTMENT RENEWED

TALLAHASSEE—Florida Public Counsel Harold McLean's appointment was extended for fiscal year 2005-2006 in an action taken today by the Joint Legislative Auditing Committee in Tallahassee. McLean was first appointed in 2004 and this is his first extension as Public Counsel.

The Public Counsel serves at the pleasure of the Florida Legislature and is appointed on an annual basis. The responsibilities of Public Counsel include representing Florida citizens before the Florida Public Service Commission, the courts and other regulatory bodies in relation to utility matters involving electric, telephone, water and gas issues.

Currently, McLean's office is actively involved in major utility issues involving telephone and electric rates, in addition to special responsibilities that have been assigned to the office in the promotion and expansion of Lifeline telephone service for low income subscribers.

The Office of Public Counsel was first established by the Legislature in 1974 in order to provide an independent voice on behalf of the citizens in the regulatory processes that involve utility rates and service.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CALL: 850-488-9330